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NSC BRIEFING

23 February 1955

CHINESE NATIONALIST ACTION
AGAINST TAISHAN ISLAND

I. In retaliation for ChiCom occupation of several islands in vicinity Nanchishan, ChiNats since 18 Feb have been retaliating against Taishan (40 miles south Nanchishan).

A. Nats conducted air and naval strikes 18 Feb. Navy pulled out of area same night, but air strikes have continued.

B. Nats assert 70-80 ChiCom ships sunk--including one sub--plus 1,500-2,000 troops killed. US observers say these claims exaggerated.

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II. MAAG chief, General Chase, expressed regret to Nat Def Min re early departure Nat navy, slight accomplishments of F-84 jet fighters, failure to take prisoners, absence of gun camera film to confirm action, failure

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to discover ChiCom move to occupy islands.

III. ChiComs offered no air resistance, Nat losses light.

A. ^{MAAG reports} ~~In excitement~~, Nat planes mistakenly bombed Nat-held Tungyin Island, 40 miles south Taishan. Only military installation--radio station used by Nat air force--possibly destroyed.

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